

The Brooklyn Paper

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From left, Pat Downs with Holly, her 2-year-old mixed-breed; Mary Jo Tobin with Monster, her 6-year-old Lhasa apso; and Ruth Bedell, with Lili, her 1-year-old papillon. Tobin and Downs will host their fifth adopt-a-thon, which over the years, has paired more than 200 wayward cats and dogs with loving families.

Duo celebrates dog days with adopt-a-thon

By Jotham Sederstrom
The Brooklyn Papers

Bringing new meaning to the phrase “dog days of summer,” two animal-loving Bay Ridge residents plan to unleash a day-long “adopt-a-thon” next weekend that hopes to do for wayward pets what eBay does for throwaway collectibles.

Mary Jo Tobin and Patricia Downs, both area real estate agents, plan to unveil the fifth installment of their popular “Adopt-a-Pet” program on Saturday, June 25, at Christ Church, on Ridge Boulevard at 73rd Street. Since November, the effort has united nearly 200 cats and dogs with families throughout the five boroughs.

“We’ve had so many people come in just to tell us how happy they are with their new pet, people from all over the city and especially Brooklyn. Canarsie, Sunset Park, Flatbush, Sheepshead Bay — you name it,” said Downs, who founded the event with Tobin last year after the two bonded while working at Prudential Applied Realty, on Fifth Avenue at 80th Street.

Like previous engagements, the event on Saturday will showcase 30 or more pets, all angling for new homes while residing at a city Animal Care and Control center in East New York, where they landed after being stranded by neglectful owners. From calicos and Persians to poodles and rottweilers, the potential pets, said Downs, are ready to be swooped up that day, as long as they aren’t awaiting outstanding shots.

The initiative is a labor of love, made possible after the pair began sharing stories about their unequivocal love for pets. Even after Tobin left Prudential to establish her own agency — Tobin Katros Realty at 9303 Third Ave. — the pals continued their plan to provide homes for their four-legged friends.

Following negotiations between the Animal Care and Control shelter, which now provides the animals, and a no-kill shelter on Long Island, which lends a bus to transport them to Bay

Ridge, the pair began scouting for locations.

A grassroots effort from head to tail, the program began humbly last November, when sympathetic co-workers at Prudential opened their doors to nearly three dozen frisky cats and dogs. Despite the impromptu setting, however, animal lovers adopted each and every kitten only one hour after the event began. By the end of the day, roughly 30 pets had found new homes.

“We had dogs running all over the office and cats curled up at the window,” said Downs, the owner of three cats and a dog. “But everybody who showed up stuck around all day, just playing with them.”

Since then, the women have helped house exactly 164 animals, even as they continue to search for a permanent location to host their event, which occurs irregularly, whenever the pair is able to make time. They also have a group of about 20 volunteers, most of them from Bay Ridge, who have donated their time at the events.

And even as it struggles to expand, the program continues to produce a bevy of satisfied pet owners, some who claim the adopt-a-thon gave them a new lease on life.

Ruth Bedell, a lifelong Bay Ridgite, counts herself among the throngs who have gained new friends thanks to the program. After a visit in November, in which her adoption of a miniature pinscher was blocked due to the need for vaccinations, Bedell united with a pupillon, a rare spaniel breed, which she named Lili.

Nearly seven months later, Bedell and Lili are inseparable. Named after the 1953 film of the same name, Lili enjoys hearing tunes from her owner, who whispers on occasion, “Hi Lili, Hi Lili, Hi low,” after a song from the movie.

“Life is more exciting with Lili,” said Bedell, who adopted the dog on Feb. 12. “She was my valentine, and we’re a match made in heaven. She’s the cutest thing you’ll ever see.”

For more information about the June 25 event, call (718) 836-2600.

YARDS AWAY

Ratner train relocation could affect eminent domain fight

NOT JUST NETS THE NEW BROOKLYN

By Jess Wisloski
The Brooklyn Papers

If he wants to build a new home for his New Jersey Nets basketball team atop rail yards at Atlantic and Flatbush avenues, developer Bruce Ratner will have to pay for more than air space over the Long Island Rail Road tracks — he’s also going to have to help pay to move those tracks.

According to an agreement negotiated among the city, state and Forest City Ratner Companies, the developer’s Atlantic Yards plan calls for moving the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) train storage yards.

Forest City Ratner officials told The Brooklyn Papers that, according to an agreement being hashed out separately with the state-run MTA, Ratner is being asked to foot the bill.

Moving the rail yards could shift the burden of some of the potential eminent domain property takings to a “public use,” as opposed to Forest City Ratner’s requesting the condemnation on these blocks for a private housing development — although the public use would be necessitated by the private development.

Ratner seeks to build an arena for the New Jersey Nets basketball team be purchased last summer, as well as 17 high-rises — including three that would be the borough’s tallest — on a six-square block parcel emanating from the crossroads of Atlantic and Flatbush avenues. The plan includes a mix of office space,

retail and as many as 7,300 units of housing.

To build the project, the developer will need to purchase air rights over roughly 11 acres of MTA rail yard property. The remaining 13 acres are owned or controlled by Ratner or else are subject to state condemnation for Ratner’s use under eminent domain laws.

The MTA did not sign on to the memorandum of understanding (MOU) agreed to in March by the city, state and Ratner. The MTA is negotiating separately with the developer, said Forest City Ratner spokeswoman Lupe Todd.

In discussions between Forest City Ratner and the MTA, the developer has agreed to pay for “the entire rail relocation project,” said Todd.

Todd said that under the Forest City Ratner plan, the rail yards would be “reconfigured and redesigned to accommodate the future needs of the railroad on MTA land.”

“The rail yards will move from Atlantic and Pacific, primarily running between Fifth and Carlton avenues, to primarily between Sixth Avenue and Vanderbilt Avenue, shifting down a block,” she said.

Then the housing, instead of the arena, would be built over the rail yards.

Todd could not explain why the arena could not be built atop a platform over the rail yards as was planned for the proposed New York Jets football stadium on Manhattan’s West Side.

Todd called the rail-shift plan an “upgrade” that would turn

See **YARDS** on page 12



Mayor Michael Bloomberg with supporters on Monday opens his new campaign office at 7920 Third Ave. in Bay Ridge.

Bloomie opens boro stumphouse

By Jotham Sederstrom
The Brooklyn Papers

Mayor Michael Bloomberg opened his first campaign headquarters in Brooklyn Monday, in a Bay Ridge storefront that previously housed Things on Third, a gift shop.

The space, at 7920 Third Ave., will be manned by John Johnston and Michael Allegretti, both of whom formerly worked in the district office of Republican Bay Ridge state Sen. Marty Golden, according to Patrick Brennan, a Bloomberg aide who attended the opening. A third employee will be Dan McNeil, who helped

to organize the Republican National Convention last summer, Brennan said.

“Bay Ridge has traditionally been a strong base of support for the mayor,” said Brennan, adding that as many as a dozen volunteers would be stationed at the site to help with petitioning and other tasks.

“None of the other candidates have put an onus on reaching out to this community like we have,” he said.

The same day as Bloomberg’s Brooklyn visit, Council Speaker Gifford Miller held a press conference at City Hall, announcing that the council would commit \$1.15 million to keep weekend express

See **RIDGE** on page 12



Evette Casiano with her dog Meco, at the Brooklyn Pride Festival in Prospect Park last Saturday. The festival, which included a parade through Park Slope, is the city’s second largest gay and lesbian pride event.

Doggone proud

Evette Casiano with her dog Meco, at the Brooklyn Pride Festival in Prospect Park last Saturday. The festival, which included a parade through Park Slope, is the city’s second largest gay and lesbian pride event.

Dumped by beep, member is back

By Jess Wisloski
The Brooklyn Papers

It’s a hard battle, fighting the man. Especially if that man has veto power, and many of your opinions are diametrically opposed to his.

That is a lesson Ken Diamondstone — a briefly former, and now reinstated, Community Board 2 member — learned this week.

Diamondstone, whose appointment was tenuously renewed for one year June 9, less than a week after Borough President Marty Markowitz discharged him from his 11-year tenure on the community board, held a press conference Monday to shed light on what he characterized as an epidemic of shutting out dissenters. Diamondstone said he was dismissed for disagreeing with Markowitz over developer Bruce Ratner’s Atlantic Yards plan.

“I am a former vice chair and a current member of Community Board 2. Or, rather, I was a member of Community Board 2 until I made the mistake of disagreeing with Marty Markowitz about the Brooklyn Atlantic Yards project,” said Diamondstone.

Joining him outside Borough Hall were 15 community members, four of them currently members in good standing of boards 2, 6 and 8, and two former CB2 members who Diamondstone charged were also given the boot for opposing Markowitz’s arena and development agenda.

“I have always been an advocate for development of appropriate scale,” said Diamondstone, citing as examples his leadership in securing senior housing in Fort Greene’s Atlantic Village, and in the new Court House development, a mixed-income rental facility developed by David Walentas on Court Street and Atlantic Avenue.

“But I do not support the Brooklyn Atlantic Yards proposal,” he continued. “I oppose the Ratner top-down

See **CB2** on page 16

Yet again, O’Hara tries to clear his name

The Brooklyn Papers

A Brooklyn Supreme Court judge will decide this week whether to grant a new hearing for John Kennedy O’Hara, who was convicted six years ago of voter fraud.

And if the motion is granted on June

22, both Brooklyn District Attorney Charles Hynes and Park Slope Assemblyman James Brennan could find themselves subpoenaed to testify in the face of O’Hara’s charges that they conspired against him in order to rid the Brooklyn Democratic establishment of a perennial primary challenger.

“The question is will Judge [Abraham] Gerces recognize what the whole world already knows,” said O’Hara, who ran a series of unsuccessful campaigns for City Council and state Assembly before being charged in 1992. “It’s about making Hynes and Brennan admit to what everybody already knows.”

The renewed effort to overturn the conviction hinges on findings uncovered by freelance journalist Christopher Ketcham during the course of his reporting for a 7,500-word examination of the O’Hara case and the so-called Brooklyn Democratic machine that ran in Harper’s magazine last December.

Aside from records indicating that Hynes had essentially committed the same crime as O’Hara when in 1996 he filed to vote using his Downtown Brooklyn office as an address, Ketcham also interviewed several people who claimed that the zealous pros-

See **O’HARA** on page 16



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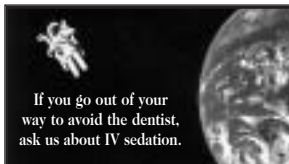
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'Mom' dies and 5th Av bar will never be same

By Jess Wisloski
The Brooklyn Papers

Neighborhood bars serve up a sense of comfort, community and an ever-present reminder of what it means to be home.

If Jackie's Fifth Amendment bar, in Park Slope, was home, then Jackie Costello was mom.

And when mom dies, there's no end to the grieving.

In the wake of a fatal heart attack on June 1, mourning burbles gathered last week to grieve the loss of what several regulars called the biggest heart they knew — regularly found across the bar at 404 Fifth Ave. Costello died on her 59th birthday.

"Everybody I told they're like, 'You're kidding right?'" said Amy Musarra, 39, a patron of the joint for eight years who Jackie hired in November to tend bar.

"She was a very nice person, she was like a mother figure," said Musarra. "She helped everybody out when anybody needed it."

"If anybody needed anything, she was right there," added a friend, who gave her name only as Jessie. "If there was a death in the family she was always there."

Musarra even claimed Costello paid for the funerals of the family members of bar regulars if they couldn't afford it.

"She grew up in the area, and geez, she knew everybody, her father and mother knew everybody and everybody knew them, they were just well-liked people," said Jessie.

Born Jacqueline Tyson in England, Costello's family came to America in the 1960s, and her father, Joseph, opened the Fifth Avenue bar.

Patrons said that along with keeping shop, Costello was the kind of woman who organized bus trips to Monmouth County and Atlantic City. She was also famous for obsessively tending to the potted plants that adorn the bar and her home, organizing parties and feasts for the holidays, and even hosting the occasional wedding reception.

In fact, Chiarina Budhrum, a regular since 1997, met her husband Ray Budhrum at the bar. They liked it so much that, seven years ago, they had their wedding reception at the place. On top of that, they celebrated their first anniversary there.

The Budhrums were perched at stools facing the bar and TV screen where a Yankees game was playing last week.

"She loved my husband," Chiarina Budhrum said, and Ray mimicked how Costello used to



Jackie Costello (center), the late proprietor of Jackie's Fifth Amendment, with Chiarina and Ray Budhrum in an undated photo. Chiarina and Ray met at the bar and seven years ago had their wedding reception there.

tickle his scruffy beard.

"If he was here, she'd head straight over to him and give him a hug," Chiarina recalled.

Ray pointed to the TV, playing an AFLAC insurance commercial featuring a duck, and recounted how much Costello used to laugh at the ad.

"She loved the duck. She loved it," said Chiarina.

Plus, she'd make a mean Bloody Mary for her early-rising patrons, who'd famously wait at the door at 7 a.m. — when the bar opened.

"She didn't take [anything] from anybody," said Musarra.

Costello was at her Fifth Street home at noon on June 1 when suffered the heart attack. She had just finished her morning bar rounds, greeting customers and watering the plants.

"The day it happened, she was here just an hour before. She seemed fine," said Musarra. "She was fooling around with one of the patrons."

Then she went home to wait for a window contractor to come by.

Her husband, Harold Costello, called 911 right away. She died at New York Methodist Hospital minutes later.

"She's such a beautiful person," Musarra said. "I guess God had other plans. He needed her for something."

She leaves behind two children, Shirley Conwell, of New Jersey, and Harold Costello Jr., who lives in the Catskills, along with several grandchildren.

Donations in her name will be sent to the American Heart Association, as soon as he dropped off or mailed to Harold Costello at the bar.

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Woman followed from Clark St IRT

By Jess Wisloski
The Brooklyn Papers

A woman's purse was snatched after she disembarked a train in the IRT Clark Street station on June 10, say police.

The victim, 21, reported that at 3 a.m., she left the station and was headed home to her Henry Street apartment in Brooklyn Heights when she observed the perpetrator following her.

As she approached Pineapple Street, the man grabbed her navy polka-dot handbag, which contained a tan wallet holding \$30, various credit cards and identifications, and a \$200 cellular phone.

The woman told police that when she got home, she found that one of her credit cards had been used to purchase a \$76 MetroCard from an automated vending machine at the Clark Street station.

Cabby clip

A man involved in a fender-bender with a taxi driver June 8 filed a complaint after the cabby allegedly hit him with a clipboard, cutting him on the hand.

The victim told police he was involved in a minor accident with the taxi driver, who was operating a yellow Ford Crown Victoria, when he col-

POLICE BLOTTER

lied with him at 7:20 p.m. at the corner of Cadman Plaza East and Tillary Street.

After both drivers got out of their cars, the discussion grew heated. Before fleeing, the taxi driver grabbed the clipboard from his car and struck his adversary, cutting the victim's left pinky.

The cabby fled, Manhattan-bound, on the Brooklyn Bridge, according to the victim, who got the cab's medication number. The victim refused medical attention.

Worn out

A female bandit took off with a \$2,000 white-gold necklace with a crucifix pendant June 6 after tricking the owners of the Downtown Brooklyn business into thinking she was a customer.

A merchant told police the woman entered the store on Fulton Street near Hoyt Street at 4 p.m. After browsing for 10 minutes or so, the victim said she asked to try on one of the displayed necklaces.

The thief put the necklace on, and after admiring it briefly, fled the store in a hurry.

Suits him

A thief hit the jackpot June 12 when he busted into the trunk of a gray Chevrolet Impala parked in DUMBO and found property valued at \$3,500.

The victim, 30, told police

he had parked his car at 2:30 a.m. on Water Street near Bridge Street. When he returned to the vehicle later that morning, he noticed there was damage to the key lock on the driver's-side door.

After inspecting the rest of the vehicle, he found that suits and a laptop that had been in the trunk were stolen.

Broke away

A mugger robbed, assaulted and threatened a woman on June 11 as she headed home at 10:10 p.m.

The 24-year-old victim reported the incident immediately to police after breaking away from the grasp of the stranger who stopped her as she headed westbound on the northeast corner of Johnson and Gold streets, near the 84th Precinct stationhouse.

She told police a stranger approached her, asking repeatedly for her telephone number.

She finally gave the man some digits, but when she turned to leave, he grabbed her by the neck.

"You're going home with me," he growled, and grabbed the two bags the victim had been carrying, which contained her driver's license, credit cards, Medicaid card, various video games, a yellow-gold chain, necklace and bracelet set, as well as dia-

See **COPS** on page 4

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June 18, 2005

Red Hook buys site for stalled Hook store

By Jess Wisloski
The Brooklyn Papers

In a development that may seem a bit anticlimactic to Red Hook residents, who have been rallying for and against a planned Ikea big-box store on the neighborhood's southern waterfront for more than a year, the Swedish home furnishings giant said this week it had completed its purchase of the Erie Basin site.

And in an announcement sure to generate even more attention to Ikea's first New York City store, the multinational chain said this week that the Red Hook store would be its largest worldwide. Plans for a Red Hook Ikea passed nearly unanimously in the City Council last October.

Even in the face of steady opposition to the project from residents fearful of the quality-of-life and health impacts of bringing so much traffic through the neighborhood, as well as from preservationists who argued against the paving over of the 22-acre former New York Shipyard site and graving dock between Dwight and Columbia Streets along the Erie Basin, the plan passed city review based largely on the promise of jobs to residents of the Red Hook Houses public housing complex, which account for more than 70 percent of the neighborhood's population and carry a near 20 percent unemployment rate.

Ikea purchased the property for \$31.25 million.

"This is unquestionably an important milestone for all

New York City residents," said Brian Ezratty, vice chairman of Eastern Consolidated, which represented the sellers, U.S. Dredging Corp.

"It means jobs for Brooklyn residents and a boon for Manhattan shoppers," he said, pointing out the distance New Yorkers must travel to get to Ikea's two closest stores in the New Jersey cities of Paramus and Elizabeth.

Kenneth Roth, president of Ikea's buying agent, Rothwald Real Estate, said of the purchase, "Ikea has been waiting for the opportunity to situate in one of New York City's boroughs for a long time."

Roth added: "We are very excited to play a significant role in the continuing gentrification of Red Hook, with the opening of the 24th American store, which will be Ikea's largest."

The U.S. Dredging Corp. had been acting as the contracted agents for demolition of a series of Civil War-era buildings on the site.

The company will face up to \$86,400 in fines for violations issued by the City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) after U.S. Dredging was determined to have commenced an illegal demolition of a warehouse on Beard Street riddled with asbestos.

Since the disturbance and possible release of asbestos in the surrounding area, Ikea's support in the community by job advocates and unemployed tenants of the Red Hook Houses, has warmed to some degree.

At a recent hearing held by the state Department of Envi-

ronmental Conservation to address plans by the company to restore bulkheads, very few attendees voiced support for the plan.

And on May 26, a state Supreme Court judge heard arguments in a lawsuit brought against Ikea by Red Hook community groups that say the city illegally granted the company the right to raze and build on the waterfront. According to the complaint filed in Manhattan civil court, the City Council and City Planning Commission gave Ikea the nod based on "false information" the company provided them.

Antonia Bryson, the lawyer representing the Red Hook civic groups, argued that the furniture giant was remiss in

reporting the impact of the store on traffic, pollution and local business.

The suit seeks to void the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) used in the city's Uniform Land Use Review Procedure, which required review by and hearings before the community board, borough president, City Planning Commission and City Council.

The civil suit was filed by groups of community organizations including the Coalition to Revitalize Our Waterfronts Now (CROWN), Groups Against Garbage Sites (GAGS) and the Red Hook Civic Association, and also includes individual area residents as plaintiffs.

COPS

Continued from page 3
mond suit earnings and pair of shoes.

Change is bad

A robber swiped a purse hanging on a hook inside a woman's dressing room in the Macy's department store on Fulton Mall June 7, making off with property valued at \$580.

The victim, 63, told police she was changing in the ladies room, and trying on various outfits between 12:30 pm and 1:42 pm at the shop near Lawrence Street.

Throughout the shopping trip she had her purse hanging on a hook in the room, but when she was finished shopping, she realized her purse was no longer there.

She reported the bag missing to store authorities, and when she went to the lost and found, she was able to recover her bag, however, none of her valuables were inside.

Bandit nab

Police arrested a knife-carrying mugger who tried to rob a man's purse on a C train in the High Street station June 7.

The victim told police she was riding the southbound local just underneath Cadman Plaza at 8:59 pm when the stranger, 24, grabbed her purse from her shoulder.

Instead of giving in, the victim fought back, and ran into the property. Eventually the perpetrator was tackled and ran onto the track bed fleeing into the subway tunnel.

But the struggle may have been just enough to buy time until police arrived. The woman called for help, and the suspect was caught and arrested at Fulton Street, near an exit, as he fled through the victim's purse, say police.

A suspect found with a knife in his front pants pocket was arrested.

Tilly's mug

Muggers robbed a man of \$300 on June 9 as he headed home along Adams Street.

The victim, 59, told police six attackers approached him from behind at 12:15 am, one of them hitting him over the head with a traffic cone wrapped in a garbage bag.

The men pushed the victim to the ground, pinned him down on the sidewalk not far from the corner of Tillary Street and then removed his wallet, which contained the \$300 in cash, from his back pocket, say police.

The victim told police that the six men fled eastbound on Tillary Street.

Un-parked

Car thieves marked up a Suburban Legacy parked in DUMBO's scenic between June 10 and June 12.

The vehicle's owner told police he'd parked the green 2001 model on the northeast corner of Washington and Trow streets at 9 pm on June 10. Upon his return at 3 pm, two days later, the vehicle was gone.

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TWO TREES
Manhattan from p. 112

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Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 2nd day of June, 2005, bearing the index Number N05050000, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room number 007, grants the right to assume the name of Carl Jean Taylor. My present name is Carl Jean Taylor. The date of birth is 11/12/12. My place of birth is Brooklyn, New York. My date of birth is 11/12/12. My place of birth is Brooklyn, New York. My date of birth is 11/12/12.

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'I'll rob you later'

By Jess Wisloski
The Brooklyn Papers

A peeping-tom burglar robbed a Ninth Street apartment during on June 11 between noon and 4:30 pm, while its owner was out at work.

The victim, 40, told police he believed the burglar opened the bedroom window of his apartment near Eighth Avenue and removed a \$4,000 laptop computer from his desk when he was away from the apartment for a few hours midday.

According to the victim, a

POLICE BLOTTER

Hispanic male had "poked his head through the bedroom window" at 7 am that very same day waking the victim from his sleep.

Stirring at the noise, the man told the victim when he opened his eyes, "Excuse me, I'm supposed to be in the next building. I work for 360 Degrees," he said, before ducking his head back out and moving on.

A canvass of the building found neither witnesses nor similar victims.

While they dined

A thief swiped a woman's briefcase — loaded with goodies — from her friend's van parked just outside a Sterling Place restaurant where they dined on June 10.

The victim told police that at 5 pm she and her co-worker, the owner of the vehicle, went out for drinks and dinner at the restaurant near Seventh Avenue.

He parked his Toyota van in front of the eatery and she inadvertently left her black

briefcase on the seat of the car. When the victim, 39, and her friend returned to the vehicle they noticed the passenger-side door lock had been tampered with, and the briefcase was missing.

Among the items reported stolen were a pair of Indian earrings, valued at \$100; a leather bag, valued at \$200; a gold necklace, valued at \$300; a \$185 jacket, and various money orders totaling \$317.

All of her credit cards and cash were reported stolen as well.

Shop burgled

A burglar wiped out a Lincoln Place business overnight on June 10, making off with a laptop computer and cash.

The owner of the clothing shop, 29, told police that her small business near Seventh Avenue was robbed. She discovered the burglary when she found the security gate broken and the front door lock broken and unlocked at 10 am. Reported stolen was an \$800 laptop computer and \$200 in cash that was there when she closed at 7 pm the night before.

Mommy dearest

A woman assaulted her 12-year-old daughter with the broken handle of a vacuum cleaner and punched her in the head on June 5, according to police.

The girl called 911 at 11:45 am, and police responded to the apartment on 10th Street at Fourth Avenue.

The victim was found covered in bruises and with injuries on her legs and one knee, results of the beating her mother gave her with the vacuum handle and her fists, say police.

The woman, 51, also kicked her daughter in the neck, say police.

The girl told police her mother regularly abuses her, and turns violent by locking her in the house or throwing knives at her.

The victim showed a slashed pinky to police officers, which she said was the result of once such incident.

As of press time, no charges had been filed against the mother.

The Administration for Children's Services was notified. See **POLICE** on page 4

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POLICE BLOTTER...

Continued from page 3

fied, and the girl was sent to New York Methodist Hospital for treatment of the injuries.

Digital break-in

A burglar robbed a Sixth Avenue apartment of two high-end cameras on June 8, between 9:30 am and 1:30 pm, say police.

The victim, 27, was gone for four hours, but still she told police she thought the thief might have reached in through an open window in the front of the apartment, near First Street, and swiped the property.

According to the victim, by the time she returned home, a \$1,200 Nikon camera was missing, along with a \$200 pocket digital camera, despite the fact that iron gates covered the front window.

6th Ave. mug

A group of men physically assaulted and robbed a man June 9 on Sixth Avenue.

Police say the victim, 21, was walking between 10th and 11th streets at 3:30 am when a stranger approached

and demanded he "give it up."

The victim told police he tried to run away from the man, who he soon noticed was joined by at least three other men, but the attacker grabbed his right arm and both he and the victim fell to the ground.

The mugger began punching him in the face, slamming the victim's forehead against the sidewalk while trying to break loose.

That's when a second man came up and held the victim to the ground by pressing his knee into his shoulder. The victim told police he couldn't see the second perpetrator, all he saw and felt was different hands and arms going through his pockets.

The strangers ran and the victim told police he saw the first attacker, who he described as a black male, about 6-foot-3, with close-cropped hair, wearing a blue baseball cap, bronze jewelry and a multicolored tank top, running alone up 10th Street.

The other assailant ran into

a green Mazda sedan, and two others ran down 10th Street, the victim said, telling police he wasn't sure who held him down.

Among the property stolen was a \$65 cellular phone, \$350 iPod, \$100 headphones, and a wallet containing \$40 and various credit cards.

Slim pickin's

A mugger robbed a woman of \$1 on June 8 at the corner of St. John's Place and Seventh Avenue as she headed westbound at 10:10 pm.

The victim told police she was headed towards Seventh Avenue from the side street when a man approached her asking for money.

"I don't have any," she replied.

But he grabbed her purse anyway and, emptying the pocketbook, took what little he found.

The man fled southbound on Seventh Avenue.

Among the things stolen was a business security badge and \$1.

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For more information, visit the New York City Compost Project website at www.nyccompost.org or call the Urban Composting Project at **Brooklyn Botanic Garden** at **(718) 623-7290**.

The compost comes from the NYC Department of Sanitation's leaf and Christmas tree composting operations. Now you can enjoy the benefits of this recycling program.

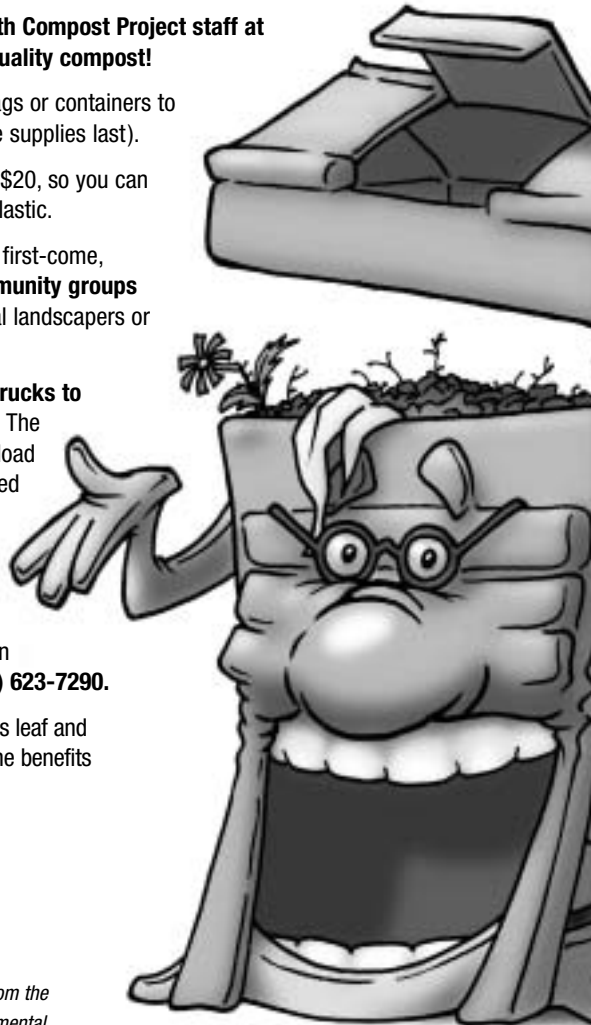
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The Brooklyn Papers' essential guide to the Borough of Kings

June 18, 2005

Swinging for Bklyn

Film, soap & opera stars slug away for local charities

By Lisa J. Curtis
GO Brooklyn Editor

On Sunday night, the Brooklyn International Film Festival wrapped with an award ceremony that skimmed the cream from the crop of this year's line-up. At the closing night ceremony held at the Brooklyn Museum, writer-director **Alison Murray** garnered awards for best feature as well as the Chameleon Award for best film of the festival for her road trip flick, "Mouth to Mouth."

The fest also paid tribute to indie film heavyweight, Park Slope actor-director **John Turturro**, who's played opposite **Johnny Depp** in 2004's "Secret Window," and been a staple in films by respected filmmakers, the **Coen Brothers** and **Spike Lee**. Turturro received the Brooklyn Excellence Award from Brooklyn International Film Festival (BIFF) Director **Marco Ursino**.

Ursino told GO Brooklyn, "The Brooklyn Excellence Award was created as part of the eighth annual BIFF as a way to honor established filmmakers whose work embodies the

mission of the festival to discover, expose, and promote independent filmmakers while drawing worldwide attention to Brooklyn as a center for cinema and culture.

"John [Turturro] is not just from Brooklyn, he is Brooklyn at its best," said Ursino.

White trophies are nice, it's money that gets a film off the ground. In addition to her statuette, BIFF awarded Murray \$32,000 worth of goods and services for her next flick.

For more information about the festival and its ongoing series at the Brooklyn Museum, visit the Web site www.brooklynfilmfestival.org.

Good, clean fun

Stars from CBS' soap operas "The Guiding Light" and "As the World Turns" and ABC's "All My Children" and "One Life to Live" picked up their bats at Midwood High School on Saturday, June 11 for the seventh annual Tammy Rubin Race Celebrity Softball Game to benefit the Shorefront Friends for Hospice, based at Coney Island Hospital.

Although she plays mean teen Lizzie Spaulding on "The Guiding Light," actor **Crys-**



Turturro tribute: At the closing night of the Brooklyn International Film Festival (BIFF) at the Brooklyn Museum on June 12, BIFF Director Marco Ursino (left) presented an award to actor-director John Turturro. (At right) Alison Murray, director of "Mouth to Mouth," collected BIFF's awards for best feature and best film of the festival.

tal Hunt showed her kinder side by showing up in Saturday's blazing heat to play CBS' centerfield. The event raised \$13,000 for Shorefront Friends, an organization which provides supportive health services for the terminally ill.

According to **Heather Regina**, event coordinator with Shorefront Friends, the crowd of 500 in attendance "are huge daytime fans, and that's why they come." ABC's fans had something extra to cheer about on Saturday, as their soap actors beat CBS's 13 to 11.

Hunt was one of the returning softball players, having gone to bat for CBS back in 2003. The 20-year-old actress told GO Brooklyn that she had volunteered for a hospice organization when she was a high school student in Florida and believes in supporting the cause. But a still sounds surprising coming from the person who portrays Lizzie, the character Hunt describes as a "rich brat" who has burned down a boarding school, pushed a pregnant woman down the stairs and kidnapped a baby on "The Guiding Light."

"It's fun, because it's not me," said the Emmy-nominated Hunt. "It's not something I do everyday, because I'd be psychotic if I did. That's cool."

For more information on supporting the Shorefront Friends for Hospice, write the organization at P.O. Box 245371 Neptune Station, Brooklyn, NY 11224.



Fabulous at 50: (Left) At the Brooklyn Philharmonic's gala at the Brooklyn Museum on May 5, bass Kevin Deas and soprano Cynthia Haymon performed. (Right) Philharmonic Executive Director Catherine Cahill with composer and board member John Corigliano.



Soap stars at bat: (Left) Renee Goldsberry (right) of "One Life to Live" gets some batting tips from husband Alexis at the seventh annual Tammy Rubin Race Celebrity Softball Game in Midwood on June 11. (Right) Crystal Hunt of "The Guiding Light" takes a swing.



Philharmonic turns 50

It was a heartwarming walk down memory lane at the Brooklyn Philharmonic's 50th anniversary black-tie gala at the Brooklyn Museum on May 5. The swanky soiree, catered by Framboise, raised \$501,000 for the organization, which is currently searching for a new artistic director after former maestro, **Bob Spano**, took the reins of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra.

Although Spano could not attend, due to health reasons, the newly installed Philharmonic board member did send along a videotape with his good wishes and fond memories, as did former music director **Dennis Russell Davies**. Fellow former maestro **Lukas Foss** shared his memories of working with the Philharmonic live and in person, while **Siegfried Landau** sent his in a letter. Other VIPs included composer and Philharmonic board member **John Corigliano** and Borough President **Marty Markowitz**. Bringing his trademark levity with his mayor-of-Munchkin-Land proclamation to the podium, Markowitz thanked Philharmonic honoree, Keyspan Corporation Chairman and CEO **Robert Catell**, for supplying postage paid envelopes with his electric bill.

The Philharmonic also honored Community Preservation Corporation President and CEO **Michael Lappin**.

The 300 guests also enjoyed the performance of George Gershwin's songs by pianist **Leon Bates**, bass **Kevin Deas** and soprano **Cynthia Haymon**. The next Philharmonic concert, conducted by **Chelso Tipton II** and featuring violinist **Tal Murray**, takes place on July 16 at 8 pm at Celebrate Brooklyn in the Prospect Park band shell.

MUSIC

Now hair this

At age 84, conductor Julius Rudel (pictured) shows no signs of slowing down.

Just days after he leads the first-ever American performances of Walter Braunfels' criminally neglected opera from the 1920s, "The Birds," at the Spoleto Festival USA in Charleston, S.C., Rudel will take the podium to conduct Camille Saint-Saens' "Samson et Dalila" on June 21 as part of the free "Met in the Parks" event in Prospect Park.



Saint-Saens' opera — the only one by this prolific French composer to enter the standard operatic repertoire — has a story taken directly from Chapter 16 of the Book of Judges in the Bible. In it, Jewish leader Samson is betrayed by his vengeful lover Dalila by cutting off the source of his strength: his hair. Before he dies, he prays to Jehovah to restore his might and is able to topple the temple, killing himself and his enemies.

Although Saint-Saens never earned a reputation as a premier opera composer, with "Samson et Dalila" he outdid himself: a highly dramatic story with larger-than-life characters, along with his strongest music, add up to a satisfying opera. And the title roles are always highly sought after — for the June 21 "Met in the Parks" performance, tenor Clifton Forbes sings Samson and mezzo-soprano Iritia Mishura sings Dalila.

Add to that the redoubtable Met Orchestra playing under Rudel's baton, and it will surely be a memorable night at the opera in the park.

The concert begins at 8 pm in the Long Meadow field fields in Park Slope. Enter Prospect Park at Ninth Street and Prospect Park West. Admission is free. For more information, visit www.metopera.org or call (212) 362-6000.

—Kevin Filipksi

EVENT

Dad's day

This Father's Day, take dad for a walk through Prospect Park that he's sure to remember. Whether he wants to stay cool and watch the kids ride the carousel or break a sweat and take the pedal boats out for a spin, there's a lot going on for both kids and their dads this Sunday, June 19.

The "Hawk Daddies Discover Tour" (right), at the Audubon Center at the Prospect Park Boat-house, runs from 3 pm to 4 pm and teaches visitors what fatherhood is like for other species living in the park. Free for all ages, the event is not recommended for children under age 3, because it's a half-hour walking tour.

Also at 3 pm, enjoy the "Concert and Sing-Along" at the Lefferts Historic House, where traditional American folk music and homemade food are served up — for free.

The historic Prospect Park Carousel is open from noon to 5 pm, and is just \$1 per ride. The carousel features hand-carved Coney Island-style horses and the sounds of a real Wurlitzer organ.

Top off this eventful Father's Day by taking dad out for a ride in Prospect Park's 60-acre lake. At Wollman Rink, visitors can rent pedal boats between noon and 5 pm, which seat four and cost just \$15 an hour; and the Audubon Center gives tours on the electric boat Independence. Electric boat tours run from noon to 4:30 pm and are \$5 for adults, \$3 for kids under 13, and free for kids younger than age 3.

For all events (except Wollman Rink pedal boats) use the Willink entrance to the park at the intersection of Flatbush Avenue, Ocean Avenue and Empire Boulevard. Wollman Rink is at the Ocean Avenue at Lincoln Road entrance. For more information, visit www.prospectpark.org or call (718) 965-9999.

—Eleanor Gorenstein

PARADE

Summer splash

Whether you have a yearning to transform yourself into Neptune or Venus on a half-shell, or you just want to ogle someone who would, set aside Saturday, June 25 for the 23rd annual Mermaid Parade in Coney Island.

The parade celebrates the start of summer, artistic expression and the sand, sea and salt air of Coney Island, according to organizers.

Registration begins at 10 a.m., if you'd like to participate. For those who just like to watch, the parade kicks off at 2 p.m. At that hour, marchers set off from West 10th Street at the boardwalk, antique cars will begin to roll at West 15th Street and Surf Avenue and motorized boats will roll out at West 16th Street and Surf Avenue.

For more information, call (718) 372-5159 or visit the Web site at www.coneyisland.com.

—Lisa J. Curtis

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Brooklyn Heights Dining Guide

This week:
PARK SLOPE

Appelwood

501 11th St. at Seventh Avenue, (718) 788-2044
(Disc, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$18-\$25. ★

David and Laura Shea, owners of cozy Appelwood, offer Brooklynites a country-style, family-oriented dining experience complete with long, airy rooms filled with wooden furniture and a brick fireplace. David, named one of "Ten Cooks with Heat" in *Forbes* Magazine in 2002, offers a wide selection of organic meat and wild fish dishes. For an appetizer, GO Brooklyn critic Tina Barry recommends the braised pork belly. "A generous square of succulent meat with all of its fat rendered, leaving it moist within," wrote Barry. Be sure to top off the meal with one of pastry chef Michael Hyman's desserts: the strawberry brulee-topped sparkling sorbet with hibiscus syrup or the mug filled with chocolate malted pudding are both good choices. Open for dinner Tuesday through Saturday and for brunch only on Sunday from 10 am to 3 pm. Closed Mondays.

Aunt Sue's

247 5th Ave. at Canal Street, (718) 788-3377
www.auntsues.com (MC, Visa) Entrees: \$11.90-\$15.90. ★

The family portraits covering the walls will make you feel like you've known Aunt Sue your whole life. You'll feel right at home and your wallet will, too, as you peruse the modestly priced, traditional Italian offerings amid the mismatched wooden tables and chairs. This is comfort food Italian-style by chef Jimmy Moccia. Start your dinner with the cold "Auntie Pasta" sampler, a combo of fresh mozzarella, sun-dried tomatoes, marinated artichoke hearts and the like. Pasta includes baked ziti with broccoli and pasta in spinach pesto, and cheese tortellini with grandma's meat sauce. For an entree, Auntie plant parmigiana or lobster tails with pasta. And whatever you do, don't forget the mozzarella garlic bread! Open daily for dinner at 5 pm, except Sundays, when Aunt Sue's opens at 1 pm.

Blue Apron Foods

814 Union St. at Seventh Avenue, (718) 230-3180, (MC, V).

Park Slope resident Ted Matton and former Saper Alton Parker opened this scrumptious cheese and charcuterie shop in November 2002. With 60 years of combined experience in the gourmet food business—including at Dean & DeLuca and Bloomingdale's—the owners have made Blue Apron Foods a destination for foodies who love high-quality goods, moderate prices and top-notch service. Blue Apron also sells all of those must-have packaged foods that make for elegant accessories to your smoked meats, fishes and cheeses, mustard and other condiments, fruit jams, chutneys and fresh-baked bread from Manhattan's Sullivan Street Bread and Amy's Bread, and Brooklyn's own Royal Crown. Ask for Pain D'Angelo breads on weekends.

—Key in on a lot of Brooklyn producers, including Jacques Torres chocolate from DUMBO, fruit tarts from Margaret Patis in Red Hook, and Blue Apron's cookies from Park Slope," says Palmer. Closed Mondays. Open Tuesday through Friday, from 10 am to 7:30 pm; Saturdays, from 10 am to 7 pm; and Sundays, from 11 am to 6 pm.

Cantina

404 Fourth Ave. at 12th Street, (718) 369-5850, (AmEx, Disc, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$8.95-\$14.95. ★

In southern Park Slope, you'll find owner Eusebio Chacra's cold and sultry Mexican restaurant with 13 margarita flavors and more than 30 varieties of specialty tequilas. Chef Juan Carrasco makes "chiles rellenos," a mild poblano chili stuffed with cheese, battered in a crisp and topped with a dollop of chili sauce made with tomato, jalapeno and a touch of the pungent heat paprika. For the main course, he fills a poblano pepper with picadillo, a mixture of ground beef, finely chopped onion, dried orange peel and dark raisins, and coats it in a tangy, nutty, light sauce topped with pomegranate seeds. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Sidekick cafe seating also available.

Delices de Paris

321 Ninth St. at Fifth Avenue, (718) 768-5666
(AmEx, Disc, MC, Visa) Pastries: \$1.95-\$3.59;
cakes: \$15.99 and up.

This cheerful bakery sells more than fine international pastries. Delices de Paris offers a wide assortment of cakes (including wedding cake), breads, pies, tarts, croissants, breakfast items, coffee, hors d'oeuvres, salads, sandwiches and more. Pastry chef Michael Martin's fougasse, spinach and Gruyere quiche are legendary. And if you're looking for a last-minute gift idea, come here to choose from among the imported cheeses, Italian oils and Belgian chocolates that can be wrapped and shipped in a lovely gift basket. Fresh specialty foods like duck confit and escargot are also sold. Open daily for breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Frats Ices

169 Seventh Ave. at First Street, (718) 369-2850,
www.fratsices.com (MC, Visa) Frats: \$4.99 (for five-packs); ice: \$1.50-\$2.50. ★

This Park Slope purveyor of deep-fried ravioli (frats) and Italian ices, ice cream and sundaes, was opened in July 2004 by owners Paula Valletta, Larry Viola and Christian Viola. The fried ravioli are pre-cooked, rolled in a breadcrumb mixture (for a snack) or deep-fried. The savory frats come with a variety of fillings: traditional cheese, meat, chicken or seafood and can be dipped in vodka, marinara or cheddar cheese sauces. For dessert, chocolate, pumpkin or chocolate frats are served with chocolate, strawberry, caramel, blueberry or cherry dipping sauces. Limited sidewalk cafe seating available.

★ = Full review available at

Brooklyn Papers
Abbreviation Key: AmEx= American Express, DC= Discover, MC= MasterCard, Visa= Visa Card

Neighborhood Dining Guide

Cantina chef Juan Carron serves up Mexican food on Fourth Avenue.

Kiku

177 Kent Ave. at Berkeley Street, (718) 638-3366
(AmEx, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$13-\$16. ★

Open since September 2004, Kiku is a peaceful sushi restaurant with what GO Brooklyn dining critic Tina Barry describes as a "Zen-like ambience." Kiku offers a lunch special for \$7 or \$8 (depending on the sushi chosen) that includes miso soup or a green salad with ginger dressing, followed by two kinds of sushi, a Japanese-style egg roll and a pile of crispy, salty "toda name," or fresh soybeans in the pod. For dinner, chef Wen Zhou offers classic plates of sushi and sashimi as well as entrees like Chilean sea bass with miso glaze. Lunch and dinner served daily.

The Oak Room Supper Club

1st Grand Prospect Hall 263 Prospect Ave. at Fifth Avenue, (718) 788-0777, www.oakroom.com (AmEx, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$17-\$30. ★

In the Oak Room Restaurant & Supper Club, contained within the ornate, restored 114-year-old Grand Prospect Hall, executive chef Michael Aytken serves up soul and soul with fusion touches and felt entrees using only market-fresh ingredients. The Oak Room's glamorous main dining room features a well-to-do mural of a hunting scene lit with bugle-shaped scones and gold brocade chairs paired with expansive round tables. As an appetizer, Aytken recommends the pan-seared Maryland lamb cabernet cake with corn, yellow peppers and Thai-spiced beurre blanc sauce. For an entree, he suggests the roast rack of lamb with thyme, garlic, lentils, asparagus and fresh mint sauce, or the grilled fillet of salmon in a lime and Chardonnay sauce. And don't forget the tableside flambe for dessert. The wine list features over 700 wines, and there's live piano brunch on Sundays. Garden seating is available, too. Call ahead for their live music line-up on Saturday nights.

Peperoncino

72 Fifth Ave. at St. Mark's Place, (718) 638-4760
(Cash only) Entrees: \$10-\$20. ★

Peperoncino owner and chef Nino Gagliardi serves 18 varieties of thin crusts, lightly topped with a variety of toppings. For an appetizer, try the tender white beans with chunks of rare, smoked salmon and thin slices of red onion. For the main course, try the "Paccheri" all Genovese with white onion and beef ragout and the Cornish game hen with sea salt and rosemary. The restaurant is also open for brunch on Saturdays from 10 am to 3 pm.

Press 195

195 Fifth Ave. at Union Street, (718) 857-1950
(Cash only) Entrees: \$6-\$12. ★

What happens when two long-time college friends with a taste for wacky sandwiches unite? Brian Kap and Chris Evans turned their obsession into a business of eclectic pressed sandwiches. The restaurant seats 25 guests inside and 35 outside in the garden, weather permitting. The garden "looks like you're in your own backyard," said Kap. Inside, the walls are painted a bright yellow and the tables are spread far apart. "I call it modern comfort," says Kap of his shop's decor. The vegetarian sandwiches are very popular "because this is just the neighborhood for that," says Kap, who just took an order for a grilled vegetable sandwich with fresh spinach and Provolone cheese with black olive and roasted garlic spreads. Living each side of fresh ciabatta bread. Another vegetarian option is the grilled portobello mushroom sandwich with fresh avocado and goat cheese, also served on ciabatta bread with the black olive and garlic spreads. Open Monday through Thursday, from 11:30 am to 10 pm; Friday and Saturday from noon to 11 pm, and Sunday from noon to 10 pm.

Scottadito Osteria Toscana

788A Union St. at Seventh Avenue, (718) 636-4800 (Cash only) Entrees: \$10-\$22. ★

This beautiful Italian restaurant transforms Park Slope into the gorgeous hills of Tuscany, both through its cuisine and its atmosphere. Owners Michele Dilibi, chef Paolo Nicotri and Donald Minerva offer warm service and organic ingredients in their authentic Tuscan dishes. For appetizers try the "burrata," mozzarella with a fresh, milky taste, along with the rich ribbons of house-made egg spaghetti that GO Brooklyn's Tina Barry described as "perfectly silky, firm yet tender." An entree of roasted duck breast was "delectable, each rosy slice rimmed with a succulent sliver of crisp fat. A very beefy-flavored sauce raze each slice and moistens fluffy mashed potatoes," according to Barry. Be sure to take advantage of the extensive and impressive wine list, both during the meal and during dessert. The dessert menu includes a housemade pistachio biscotti. Fruit tart and many other Italian cheeses in the Tuscan style. Open every day for lunch and dinner. A \$12 brunch (which includes unlimited coffee, champagne or mimosa and one entree) is available on weekends from 11 am to 3 pm.

Editor's note: These are a sampling of restaurants in the neighborhood. The list rotates, and it is not comprehensive. For more restaurants, go to www.brooklynpapers.com on the Web. If your restaurant is not listed and you would like it to be, please contact GO Brooklyn Editor Lisa Curtis via e-mail at Curtis@brooklynpapers.com.



GO Brooklyn's Tina Barry. (Above left) Chef Henry's owner Sifedinde Asfor transformed the space at 60 Henry St. by separating the interior into two rooms: an informal cafe and elegant restaurant. (Above) Chef Henry heats up the bar with "tropical flame" cocktails.

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Undersea adventure

Aquarium's exhibits reveal hero explorers & dangers to reefs

By Taylor Watson
for The Brooklyn Papers

From the cafe to its entrance, the New York Aquarium in Coney Island is awash with new things to see — and eat. Two new exhibits opened on June 7, and when visitors need to take a break from their sight-seeing, they can nosh in the Aquarium's new Seaside Cafe.

The first thing one sees when walking into the New York Aquarium is the newly installed "Glover's Reef" exhibit. This huge tank, which holds 150,000 gallons of natural seawater, is named for the seamount atoll in the western Caribbean off the coast of Belize, after which it was modeled. It joins the "Bathysphere" as one of the two newest additions to the Aquarium.

John Dohlin and his colleagues from the exhibits and graphics department of the Bronx Zoo — both the zoo and the Aquarium are operated by the Wildlife Conservation Society — designed the two new exhibits. "Glover's Reef" includes more than 35 fascinating species, including moray eels, yellowhead jawfish, yellow goatfish, southern stingray, doctorfish and queen angelfish.

The moray eels are particularly fascinating as they spend most of their time in the crevices, hiding from predators, and looking for their own prey. Visitors can view the slithering attraction at the "wall of moray eels," where three different species of eels glide ominously while looking back at the humans gawking mere inches away.

The exhibit offers the viewer many interesting facts about coral reefs. They date back to about 200 million years ago and today's coral reefs, like the one "Glover's Reef" was patterned after, have been around for roughly 10,000 years. Coral is actually a living organism and a "piece" of coral is many interconnected, individual small coral living collectively as a colony.

"Coral reefs are important to humans because they are breeding grounds for certain species of fish which are important for human consumption and provide protection to tropical coastal regions against waves that may erode the shoreline," said Dave DeNardo, general curator for the New York Aquarium. "A great amount of research is being done today with corals to determine if they can provide medicinal compounds [too]."

One learns through displays at the ex-



More fish from the sea: (Clockwise from top) Visitors peer into the newly installed "Glover's Reef" exhibit at the New York Aquarium; the Bathysphere which Otis Barton and the Brooklyn-born William Beebe used to descend to 3,028 feet on Aug. 15, 1934; and a cownose ray in "Glover's Reef."

hibit that a coral reef consists of skeletons from coral and other animals, minerals and organic matter. A coral colony grows on the reef surface, which itself provides food and shelter for many species of animals and plants.

"The exhibit also focuses attention on ways in which coral reefs are of direct value to people, including our visitors, and aims to motivate people to care about the fate of coral reefs everywhere," said Aquarium spokeswoman Fran Hackett.

"The Wildlife Conservation Society owns one of the five tiny islands on [Glover's Reef] and has scientists working there to learn about coral ecology and biology and ways to diminish human threats to these fragile habitats," she noted.

Take a 'Bath'

The 5,400-pound "Bathysphere" is the vessel that Otis Barton and Brooklyn native William Beebe used to descend to 3,028 feet on Aug. 15, 1934. At the time, they shattered the record of 525 feet.

Amazingly, two full-grown men fit in the tiny vehicle along with the necessary equipment, which included oxygen tanks, a barometer and a searchlight. (At the Aquarium, visitors can peer — not step — into the sphere.) The "Bathysphere" is 4 feet, 9 inches in diameter; the walls are an inch and a quarter thick; the three windows are 8 inches in diameter and 3 inches thick; and the door is only 14 inches in diameter. It must have been quite a tight fit.

EXHIBIT

"Glover's Reef" and "The Bathysphere" are on display now at the New York Aquarium (391st Avenue at West Eighth Street in Coney Island). Admission is \$11 for adults and \$7 for children ages 2 through 12 and senior citizens. Children under the age of 2 are admitted free.

On Father's Day — this Sunday, June 19 — from 11 am to noon, the Aquarium hosts a "That's My Dad!" event featuring a puny role-play game and exploration of parenting efforts of aquatic dads. The fee for this program — \$23, \$18 members (parent-child pair) — includes admission to the Aquarium. Appropriate for ages 3 to 4.

Also on Father's Day, from noon to 4 pm, the Aquarium will offer other activities (such as making seashore-themed crafts for dad and sea lion demonstrations in the Aqual Theater) that are free with admission. For more information, call (718) 265-FISH or visit the Web site at www.nyaquarium.com.

The reason for the dive was to disprove the theory that life could not exist below 500 feet of water.

This exhibit shows artist renderings as described by Beebe and Barton of the odd-looking species they found, including deep-sea anglerfish, giant siphonophores, copepod, black swallower and lanternfish.

The giant siphonophores are particularly intriguing in that they look like a single creature, but are actually a colony of animals, according to the exhibit. The different animals have separate jobs; some catch prey, others digest and some move the colony along.

In addition to Beebe and Barton's dangerous voyage proving that there was life below 500 feet of ocean, they proved it was a population of fascinating creatures.

In addition to these two new exhibits, the Aquarium's permanent "Alien Stingers" installation shows many different types of jellyfish, corals and anemones. Interactive computers give visitors information about the different types of fish. We find out, among other things, exactly what stingers are and how they eat.

Another must-see exhibit is the "Jamaica Bay Touch Pool," where children can touch canned whelk and Atlantic horseshoe crab.

If seeing all of this seafood gives you a hunger pang, stop in the new Seaside Cafe, which opened in March and offers a menu of "sustainable seafood" choices.

BAC in DUMBO

On June 9, the Brooklyn Arts Council opened to the public its new offices at 55 Washington St. in DUMBO.

Among the VIPs who helped with the unveiling of the Brooklyn Arts Council's Donor Wall were (left to right) Seth Edwards, of J.P. Morgan Chase; Jo Weiss, of The Lehman Brothers Foundation; Brooklyn Borough President Marty Markowitz; Marilyn Gelber, of Independence Community Foundation; and Ella

Weiss, president of the Brooklyn Arts Council.

The relocation of the organization, from the basement of the War Memorial in Cadman Plaza Park building to 3,100 square feet of light-filled space on the second floor of the office building at Washington and Front streets, has allowed the Brooklyn Arts Council to build a modern reference library, a Folk Arts archive, the Independence Community Foundation Conference

Room for professional development seminars and Arts in Education workshops as well as the J.P. Morgan Chase Resource Center with computers for artists and arts organizations to use for seeking on-line grant opportunities and research.

The resource center and the council's library and archive are open to artists and arts organizations by appointment only.

Founded in 1966, the Brooklyn Arts Council is an arts service organization that assists both amateur and professional artists in all disciplines. In addition, the council presents the BAC International Film and Video Festival. Having just celebrated its 39th year, it is the oldest film festival in the borough.

For more information on Brooklyn Arts Council's services, visit the Web site at www.brooklynartscouncil.org or call (718) 625-0080.

— Lisa J. Curtis

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RESTAURANT LOUNGE

Where to go

SAT. JUNE 18

OUTDOORS AND TOURS

POW WOW: Red Hawk Native American Arts Council hosts its annual event featuring traditional Native American singing, dancing, drumming and folk music. Various foods and more, \$10, \$5 kids and seniors, 11 am to 7 pm. Grand entry of dancers at 1 pm and 4 pm. Floyd Bennett Field, Kings Highway at Flatbush Avenue, (718) 666-7097.

LEAVES OF GRASS: 15 Fort Greene community-based organizations participate in a day-long celebration of poets and poetry, writers and writing, 11 am. Fort Greene Park, DeKalb Avenue at South Portland Street. Afternoon and evening events at 1 pm, 3 pm and 5 pm. Visit www.fortgreene.org. Free.

BOAT TOUR: Brooklyn Historical Society tours Brooklyn's working waterfront, \$20. Departing 11:05 am from Fulton Ferry Landing, (718) 763-7654.

BROWWATCHING: Introductory talk by Audubon Center, Noon to 1:30 pm. Enter park at Lincoln Road and Ocean Avenue, (718) 287-3400. Free.

WALKING TOUR: Big Onion Tours walks through Green-Wood Cemetery, \$15, \$12 seniors, \$10 students, 1 pm. Call for location, (718) 568-3290.

DISCOVER TOUR: Prospect Park Audubon Center at the Boardhouse offers a talk on the secrets of nature, 3 pm to 4 pm. Enter park at Lincoln Road and Ocean Avenue, (718) 287-3400. Free.

PERFORMANCE

OPERA: Reginald Company performs, 1 pm. Brooklyn Public Library, Brighton Beach, 16 Brighton First Road, (718) 376-6185. Free.

SIDESHOW: Conroy Island Circus, 11 am to 11 pm. 1228 Surf Ave., (718) 578-1559.

BAM: Brooklyn Academy of Music presents Vanessa Redgrave in the Royal Shakespeare Company production of "Hecuba," \$30 to \$85, 2 pm and 7:30 pm. BAM Howard Gilman Opera House, 30 Lafayette Ave., (718) 634-4100.

DANCE: Dancing in the Streets performance with David Pines and Red Hook, (718) 625-3500. Free.

MICRO MUSEUM: presents "Which-ever Whichever... You Said Me," a performance of theater, storytelling, music, movement, recitation and projection, \$5, 3 pm. 123 Smith St., (718) 797-3116.

MORAL VALUES FEST: Brick Theater hosts a performance festival for the morally questionable, morally perverse and morally bankrupt, 7:30 pm. 575 Metropolitan Ave., www.bricktheater.com, (718) 666-4444.

BARGE MUSIC: Classical music concert features an all-List program, \$35, 7:30 pm. Fulton Ferry Landing, (718) 624-2083.

BLACK BOX: Gallery Players presents eighth annual "Black Box New Play Festival." Program presents Brother John Bankert of Bushwick in "Tales of St. Francis," Star Thomas in "Buster Keaton's Soliloquy," Teatro Tringolo in "Tikka the Powerful," \$15, \$12 children under 12 and seniors, 7:30 pm. Cabaret program at 10 pm, 199 14th St., (718) 595-0547.

BROOKLYN ARTS EXCHANGE: program of puppetry, new videos and new dance, \$15, \$8 low-income, 8 pm, 421 4th Ave., (718) 632-0018.

MUSIC: Brooklyn Conservatory Community Orchestra performs, \$5 donation, 8 pm. Old First Reformed Church, corner of Seventh Avenue and Canal Street, (718) 625-3300.

ARTS AT ST. ANN'S: Great Small World's seventh international Tour Theater festival, \$15, 7:30 pm. Visit www.greatsmallworld.org for program info, 38 Water St., (718) 254-8779.

CELEBRATE BROOKLYN: Summer performing arts festival presents the modern contemporary dance company Pilobolus, 8 pm. Prospect Park Bandshell, Ninth Street and Prospect Park West, (718) 855-7882. Free.

BROADWAY MELODIES: Kingsborough Community College hosts a concert of Broadway show tunes, 8 pm, 2001 Oriental Blvd., (718) 368-5000. Free.

CHILDREN

ARTY FACTS: Brooklyn Museum invites kids to "Colors," 11 am and 2 pm. Also, Stories and Art presents "Truly Tales," 4 pm, \$8 adults, students and seniors, free children under 12, 200 Eastern Parkway, (718) 638-0000.

PUPPETWORKS: Call for current program, 38, \$7 children, 12:30 pm and 2:30 pm, 338 South Ave., Reservations suggested, (718) 965-3391.

NY TRANSIT MUSEUM: presents "Long Island Rail Road Goes Electric," \$5, \$3 children and seniors, 1:30 pm. Boorum Plaza and Schermerhorn Street, (718) 694-1600.

OTHER

DIABETES WALK: Brooklyn Diabetes Task Force hosts a fundraiser, 9 am registration; walk from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm. Prospect Park, Bartel Lot, (718) 245-3121.

SIDEWALK SALE: Sunset Park Community Center's annual sale, 10 am to 3 pm, 3304 Fourth Ave., (718) 439-5944.

FASHION MARKET: Brooklyn Designs Showcase features emerging designers of handcrafted merchandise, 10:30 am to 3 pm, 157 Montague St., (718) 763-7654.

OPEN STUDIO: Scanlon Glass Studio hosts an event to demonstrate the art of glass, 10 am to 3 pm, 105 14th St., (718) 369-5545. Free.

JUNE FEST: Community Partnership Charter School hosts its fourth annual fundraiser featuring music, games, food, sports and rides, 11 am to 4 pm, 241 Emerson Place, (718) 399-3324.

CRABT FAIR: at Bethel Baptist Church, Noon to 6 pm, 265 Bergen St., (718) 461-9933.

PIET ARTS: Closing day and of silent auction at Audubon Waterfront Arts Coalition. Medium bids start at \$25, 10 am to 5 pm. Red Hook, 499 Van Brunt St., (718) 596-2507.

STRAWBERRY FEST: at Christ Church, Bay Ridge, \$15, 1 pm to 4 pm, 7301 Bay Blvd., (718) 745-5475.

RELAY FOR LIFE: Annual overnight event at Poly Prep Country Day School raises money for cancer, 4 pm to 7 am, Seventh Avenue and 32nd Street in Bay Ridge, Call (718) 237-7851.

PSUEDO SCIENCE FAIR: Go Codon presents "Pseudoscience Fair" featuring the craziest, weirdest, prettiest science fair projects. Prizes, live music, more, \$5 to watch, \$15 for project entry, 2:30 pm. Register online: www.goecodon.org. Galapagos Art Space, 70 North 6th St., (718) 782-5188.

SINGLES DINNER CONCERT: at First Evangelical Free Church, \$10, 7 pm, 6501 34th Ave., (718) 636-0027.

SUN, JUNE 19

Father's Day OUTDOORS AND TOURS

SEVENTH HEAVEN: Park Slope's 30th annual event, Seventh Avenue from Flatbush Avenue to 15th Street. Food, crafts and entertainment, including music on the main stage between Fourth and Fifth Streets, 11 am to 6 pm, (718) 244-1165. Free.

BORO TO BORO: Brooklyn Center for the Urban Environment walks a loop between Brooklyn and Manhattan, over the Brooklyn and Manhattan bridges. Learn about the culture and history of the neighborhoods between the bridges, \$11, 39 members, \$8 seniors and students, 11 am to 1 pm. Meet at street level of High Street train station, (718) 788-8500.

FATHERS DAY CELEBRATION: Prospect Park invites families to spend the day in the park. Concert and sing-along at 3 pm. Hawk Daddies talk at Audubon Center, 3 pm to 4 pm. Pedal boat on the lake, \$5, \$3 kids under 13, Noon to 5 pm. Call (718) 965-8999.

GREENWOOD CEMETERY: Tour this Victorian city of the dead, \$6, 1 pm. Meet at main entrance, Fifth Avenue and 26th Ave., (718) 768-7300.

POW WOW: Red Hawk Native American Arts Council hosts its annual event featuring traditional Native American singing, dancing, drumming and folk music. Various foods and more, \$10, \$5 kids and seniors, 11 am to 7 pm. See Sat., June 18.

PERFORMANCE

CIRCUS SUNDAY: Professional performers from around the globe. \$15, \$8 kids under 12, Noon, 2:30 pm and 5 pm, Waterfront Museum, (718) 624-4719.

CELEBRATE BROOKLYN: Summer performing arts festival presents the modern contemporary dance company Pilobolus, 8 pm. Prospect Park Bandshell, Ninth Street and Prospect Park West, (718) 855-7882. Free.

BROADWAY MELODIES: Kingsborough Community College hosts a concert of Broadway show tunes, 8 pm, 2001 Oriental Blvd., (718) 368-5000. Free.

Compiled by Susan Rosenthal

and Barge, Conover Street at the water in Red Hook, (718) 624-4719.

FOLK FEET: Brooklyn Arts Council presents "Folk Feet," 2 pm to 5 pm, Ft. Greene Park, DeKalb Avenue and South Portland Street, (718) 625-0080. Free.

JAZZ: Bonga and the Voodoo Jazz Ensemble performs, 5 pm to 8:30 pm, Tobacco Warehouse, Empire-Fulton Ferry State Park, (718) 902-0603. Free.

BARGE MUSIC: Classical music concert features an all-List program, \$35, 7:30 pm. Fulton Ferry Landing, (718) 624-2083.

BRICK THEATER: "Absence of Magic," a comedy about downs, \$10, 7 pm, 575 Metropolitan Ave., www.bricktheater.com, (718) 907-3457.

ARTS AT ST. ANN'S: Great Small World's seventh international Tour Theater festival, \$15, 7:30 pm. Visit www.greatsmallworld.org for program info, 38 Water St., (718) 254-8779.

GOSPEL MUSIC: 11-year-old gospel singer Najayah performs, Brown Memorial Baptist Church, 484 Washington Ave., Call for time and ticket info, (718) 638-6111.

BAM: "Hecuba," 3 pm. See Sat., June 18.

CHILDREN

AQUARIUM: Father's Day event "That's My Dad!" features a pen-in role-playing game and a paper ration of parenting efforts of aquatic dads, \$23, \$18 members (parent/child pair). Appropriate for ages 3 to 4 years, 11 am to noon. West 43rd Street and Surf Avenue, (718) 265-9734.

FAMILY DRUM CIRCLE: Brooklyn Park Conservatory hosts a drumming circle. Bring something to bang on, 3 pm to 4 pm, Tobacco Warehouse, Empire-Fulton Ferry State Park, (718) 902-0603. Free.

PUPPETWORKS: Call for current program, 38, \$7 children, 12:30 pm and 2:30 pm, 338 South Ave., (718) 965-3391.

OTHER

BAM/CEMETERY: presents "Star Wars: The Force Awakens," \$10, \$7 students, \$5 members, 3 pm. 575 Metropolitan Ave., (718) 624-2083.

FLA: "The Blues Brothers" (1980), 10:30 pm. Cafe Steinbock, 422 Seventh Ave., (718) 369-7776. Free.

MON, JUNE 20

AFTER SCHOOL FUN: First Evangelical Free Church hosts a program for kids, grades K-5, 4 pm to 6:30 pm, Sixth Avenue and 66th Street, (718) 745-7775. Free.

MORAL VALUES FEST: Brick Theater performance festival for the morally questionable, morally perverse and morally bankrupt, \$10, 7:30 pm. 575 Metropolitan Ave., www.bricktheater.com, (718) 666-4444.

MOVIE: Union Temple presents the documentary "Under Strange Skies," Discussion follows with filmmaker, 7:30 pm, 17 Eastern Ave., (718) 638-7600. Free.

MUSIC: Celebrate the arrival of summer with Songs for a Summer Solstice, 7:30 pm, Salem Lutheran Church, 450 67th St., (718) 748-7770. Free.

SUMMER REGISTRATION: Brooklyn Museum invites registration for its Gallery Study Program's summer art classes. Ages 6 to adult are invited to register, 200 Eastern Parkway. For schedule of classes, visit www.brooklynmuseum.org.

TUES, JUNE 21

Summer begins

BAM: Brooklyn Academy of Music presents Vanessa Redgrave in the Royal Shakespeare Company production of "Hecuba," \$30 to \$85, 2 pm and 7:30 pm. BAM Howard Gilman Opera House, 30 Lafayette Ave., (718) 634-4100.

MEDITATION WORKSHOP: 6:30 pm to 7:40 pm. Brooklyn Public Library, Brooklyn Heights Branch, 280 Cadman Plaza West, (718) 633-5751. Free.

MEETING: 62nd Precinct Community Council meets, 8 pm. Our Lady of Guadalupe, 15th Avenue and 72nd Street, (718) 250-2001.

OPERA: The Metropolitan Opera



The 7th International Tour Theater Festival and Temporary Tour Theater Museum continues at St. Ann's Warehouse through June 19.

comes to Prospect Park. Program info: "Samson and Delilah," by Camille Saint-Saens, 8 pm, Long Meadow, Prospect Park, (718) 799-3100. Free.

WEDS, JUNE 22

MORAL VALUES FEST: Brick Theater hosts a performance festival for the morally questionable, morally perverse and morally bankrupt, 7:30 pm. 575 Metropolitan Ave., www.bricktheater.com, (718) 666-4444.

BAM/CEMETERY: "Facing Windows" (2000), \$10, \$7 students, \$5 members, 3 pm, 575 Metropolitan Ave., (718) 624-2083.

CELEBRATE BROOKLYN: Summer performing arts festival hosts a parade featuring costumed marchers, antique cars, floats and more, 2 pm. Registration at 10 am, 1208 Surf Ave., (718) 372-5199.

COMPOST OVEREAKS: Department of Sanitation is giving compost to area residents and community groups are invited to take part, 10 am to 4 pm, Spring Creek Composting Facility, Flatlands and Fountain Avenue, (718) 623-7200. Free.

BOAT TOUR: Brooklyn Historical Society takes a tour of Brooklyn's working waterfront, \$20, \$18 mem-

bers. Boat departs 11:05 am from Fulton Ferry Landing, (718) 763-7654.

BEASTLY TOUR: Brooklyn Center for the Urban Environment takes a tour of Slattery Heights neighborhood of Bedford-Stuyvesant. Tour includes a visit to Fulton Art, \$11, \$9 members, \$8 students and seniors, Noon to 2 pm. Meet at 157 Montague St., (718) 763-7654. Station, (718) 788-8500.

PELAD BOATING: Tour Prospect Park's freshwater lake by pedal boat, \$15 per hour. Noon to 5 pm. Enter the park at Parkside and Ocean avenues, (718) 287-8450.

LIVING LOGS: Urban Park Rangers offers a talk about the miniature ecosystem that exists on a single log, 1 pm. Audubon Center, Prospect Park, (718) 287-3400. Free.

CORBIE HILL STROLL: Historic New York Tours takes a walk through the Workingmen's Cottages, the Lower and Home Apartments, a cobblestone street and the shops along Columbia Street, \$12, \$10 students and seniors, 1 pm. Meet by statue of Columbus in front of the Supreme Court, corner of Montague and Court streets, (718) 996-8669.

PERFORMANCE

BAM: Brooklyn Academy of Music presents Vanessa Redgrave in the Royal Shakespeare Company production of "Hecuba," \$30 to \$85, 2 pm and 7:30 pm. BAM Howard Gilman Opera House, 30 Lafayette Ave., (718) 634-4100.

MORAL VALUES FEST: Brick Theater performance festival for the morally questionable, morally perverse and morally bankrupt, 7:30 pm. 575 Metropolitan Ave., www.bricktheater.com, (718) 666-4444.

CELEBRATE BROOKLYN: Summer performing arts festival presents a trio of indie bands from Canada, \$3 suggested donation, 8 pm. Prospect Park Bandshell, Ninth Street and Prospect Park West, (718) 855-7882. Free.

CONCERT: One World Symphony performs "Fidelio and Faust," \$30, \$20 students and seniors. Admission includes refreshments, 8 pm, St. Ann's Church, 422 Seventh Ave., (718) 624-2083.

LATIN RHYTHMS: Kingsborough Community College hosts a concert of Latin music, 8 pm, 2001 Oriental Blvd., (718) 368-5000. Free.

CHILDREN

ARTY FACTS: Brooklyn Museum invites kids to "Colors," 11 am and 2 pm. Also, Stories and Art presents "Truly Tales," 4 pm, \$8 adults, students and seniors, free for members, 200 Eastern Parkway, (718) 638-0000.

CELEBRATE BROOKLYN: Summer performing arts festival presents the modern contemporary dance company Pilobolus, 8 pm. Prospect Park Bandshell, Ninth Street and Prospect Park West, (718) 855-7882. Free.

BROADWAY MELODIES: Kingsborough Community College hosts a concert of Broadway show tunes, 8 pm, 2001 Oriental Blvd., (718) 368-5000. Free.

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LATIN RHYTHMS: Kingsborough Community College hosts a concert of Latin music, 8 pm, 2001 Oriental Blvd., (718) 368-5000. Free.

CHILDREN

ARTY FACTS: Brooklyn Museum

Brooklyn Papers FAMILY CLASSIFIEDS

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Safe summer health tips

The summer season is fast approaching, and the best way to enjoy it is to be prepared for what those lazy, hazy days can bring. A fun, healthy summer means remembering to use sun protection, drink fluids and avoid the heat.

You know the drill: Sunscreen every two hours, with sun protection of 15 or higher. Hats, sunglasses, lip balm with sunscreen. Avoid the midday sun.

As with teeth-brushing, there will be protests. But don't give up or give in. The job has to get done.

"Every sun exposure counts," says the Skin Cancer Foundation. A blistering sun-

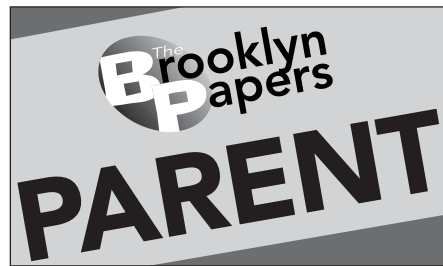
burn in childhood increases the risk for developing melanoma, the deadliest form of skin cancer, later in life, research shows.

If your child will be going away to camp, the Skin Cancer Foundation recommends checking in with camp directors to ensure that the child's camping experience is "sun-safe." A sun-safe camp should:

- Have campers and staffers apply broad-spectrum sunscreen 20 to 30 minutes before they head outdoors.
- Have counselors trained to take a parental role in making sure campers are protected, reminding their charges to reapply sunscreen throughout the day, wear brimmed hats and seek out shade.

- Schedule most outdoor activities for early morning or late afternoon.
- Have shade easily accessible for those outdoor activities scheduled between 10 am and 4 pm, when the levels of two types of ultraviolet rays, UV-A and UV-B, are most intense.

Outdoor activities need to be limited during peak heat hours when the ozone level is higher, the American Lung Association says. As on rainy days, camps need back-up plans when the ozone level goes high.



Kids breathe faster and more deeply when they're active, so they take in even more polluted air as they exercise. They may feel short of breath but are reluctant to admit they need a break.

The best way to protect your family is to check the ozone forecast, then adjust your schedule to minimize outdoor exposure between noon and 6 pm on the worst days, designated as orange or red zone days, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Whether running around at a camp or in the backyard, kids also need to be reminded to drink fluids before, during and after activities.

A "Defeat the Heat" public safety campaign last summer said two-thirds of U.S. children arrived at sports practices significantly dehydrated. Even before they started practices, their bodies were running low on fluids.

The American Academy of Pediatrics suggests this schedule: A child weighing about 88 pounds should drink five ounces of cold tap water or a flavored beverage such as a sports drink every 20 minutes. Children and teenagers weighing 132 pounds should drink nine ounces of cold tap water or a flavored beverage every 20 minutes. One ounce typically equals two kid-size gulps. Avoid dehydrating beverages such as caffeinated sodas and iced tea.

This summer, tempers will sizzle and patience will fizzle unless there's at least some semblance of a schedule for open days at home. If you keep a "get-out-of-my-hair attitude," it's going to be a long summer. Instead, divide the day into flexible chunks:

- Keep a time block each day strictly for the kids, where you're not multi-tasking. With something to look forward to in the afternoon, for example, your children will be more independent in the morning and more cooperative about chores.
- Block out reading or quiet time.

- For breaks, hire a teenage babysitter or a younger mother's helper.
- Trade caring for the children with a neighbor one or two mornings a week. Trade supervision of outside activities with other parents.

Parent-to-Parent



By Betsy Flagler

• Keep art supplies handy, and pull ideas from activity books such as "Family Fun Boredom Busters: 365 Games, Crafts and Activities For Every Day of the Year" by Deanna E. Cook (Disney Editions, 2002).

Can you help?

"I have a great-grandson who is 4, and he has had behavior at the table. He refuses to eat with the family. We took him to a nice dinner at the country club and his mother had to take him home. We had a cookout and he slid out of his chair, went under the table and did not want to eat with us. Does he need to be seen by a psychologist? His maternal grandparents say he does not act this way with them, and he is not a problem at preschool."

A great-grandmother
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Parents concerned about their children's calorie intake can obtain a copy of the new Parent To Parent newsletter "Getting Over Overeating" by sending a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope and \$2 to Newsletter, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092.

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Session 1: June 27 - July 8th, Session 2: July 11th - July 22nd
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Session 1: June 27th - July 8th, Session 2: July 11th - July 22nd, Session 3: July 25th - Aug 5th, Session 4: Aug 8th - Aug 19th

RIDGE

Continued from page 1
buses operating if the Metropolitan Transportation Authority kept its promise to pull the funding for those buses. The X27 and X28 routes, which travel between Bay Ridge and Midtown Manhattan, are expected to be cancelled later this month, say MTA officials.

Citing overdevelopment in southwest Brooklyn, Miller said he was pleased with support he claims he has already received in Bay Ridge and vowed to continue campaigning in the area.

"We're pleased to have the support and we'll continue to talk to voters about overdevelopment issues and how we can cut the costs faced by small businesses," Miller told The Brooklyn Papers.

Of the other Democratic candidates vying to challenge Bloomberg this November, all but one remained non-committal on Bay Ridge in light of the mayor's big move this week.

When called for comment, Joseph Mercuro, a campaign consultant for Manhattan Borough President C. Virginia Fields, said, "We're going to be campaigning very heavily all throughout the city, she'll be traveling into every community."

Mercuro, however, would not say specifically how Fields planned on campaigning in Bay Ridge, adding instead, "We're going to be campaigning wherever there are Democrats."

Spokespersons for former Bronx Borough President Fernando Ferrer and Rep. Anthony Weiner did not return calls seeking comment. The hundred or so supporters who packed into the mayor's Brooklyn office this week were not just from the relatively conservative-leaning Bay Ridge.

Supporters included a contingent from Bedford-Stuyvesant. Packed into the office, they began chanting, "Four more years," as Bloomberg took the podium.

Bloomberg arrived on time, in the afternoon of a New York Times article earlier that day that said his late arrival to a news conference a week ago had offended waiting foreign dignitaries.

"We're going to have to work hard for this victory, and we cannot win with just Republican votes," said Bloomberg to a crowd that was revealed to be almost entirely Republican, as Golden found out after asking, "How many Democrats do we have here tonight?"

Two or three hands went up.

YARDS

Continued from page 1
"antiquated rail yards" into "a modern, new and efficient facility that can rail and address current and future needs, with all of the amenities that are required."

"The city and state will grant FRCR \$200 million to cover the infrastructure needs for this project — however, there is dramatically more infrastructure needs than the \$200 million will cover," Todd said.

That agreement is dependent upon approval of the Ratter plan by the state's Public Authorities Control Board.

Despite their ongoing negotiations with Forest City Ratner, the MTA on May 18 put out an 11th-hour request for proposals (RFP) soliciting bids from developers interested in building over the Atlantic-Flatbush rail yards.

Neyssa Pranger, a spokeswoman for the Straphanger's Campaign, has said the MTA cannot abdicate its responsibility to accept the highest bidder. The transit riders advocacy group has filed a lawsuit against the MTA for not accepting the highest bidder for similar development rights over Manhattan's Hudson Yards, where the New York Jets football team and the mayor want to build a stadium.

"The only way the MTA is going to realize the full value of the [Atlantic-Flatbush] rail yards is if they put it through a competitive bid process," said Pranger.

The current lawsuit challenges the MTA advisory board for discrediting a higher bid on the West Side yard, which came from Cablevision, which owns Madison Square Garden.

"A competitive bid is necessary, but it is hard to do in this climate where the power brokers are deciding who gets what," Pranger added.

Bill Henderson, associate director of the Permanent Citizen's Advisory Committee to the MTA and the LIRR Committee of Council, said it was uncertain how the Atlantic Yards project might effect Long Island Railroad commuters.

"Our perspective is really the transportation end of it," said Henderson. "We want what's going to work operationally for the MTA, and what's going to work for their customers at Atlantic Terminal and in the larger system."

"It could have very little impact on it if it's just a matter of moving storage to another point," he said, but added that space is already tight at the LIRR station at Atlantic Terminal.

"You have limited track space and you don't want to have to bring everything out from Long Island to run your evening rush," Henderson said.

"It may not have much impact, but I don't know that."

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AWP 17

Helicopter crashes across the East River



After a helicopter crashed into the East River, it was recovered and brought to Pier 2 beneath the Brooklyn Heights promenade.

By Tom Hays
Associated Press

A passenger was hospitalized in critical condition after a helicopter taking six tourists from Australia, England and France on a flight above Manhattan crashed into the East River within seconds of its takeoff Tuesday.

"We'll have some tourists who will certainly have a story to tell when they get home," Mayor Michael Bloomberg said after rescuers quickly plucked the pilot and his passengers from the water following Tuesday's crash off lower Manhattan.

When the battered helicopter was removed from the water, its propeller, tail and windows were broken. The craft was pulled to Pier 2 beneath the Brooklyn Heights promenade.

The rescue was aided by the fact that police harbor units were already in the area conducting a drill, police spokesman Inspector Michael Coan said. Bloomberg also credited the pilot with reacting quickly after all aboard the Bell 206 Long Ranger heard a loud bang as they ascended from the Wall Street heliport at 1:30 pm.

The passengers were identified as Karen Butler and Gary Butler of Essex, England; Gregory Fisher, Mary Johnston and Taryn Fay, all of Australia and Mark Chassin from France.

The six-passenger helicopter did a 360-degree roll before the pilot put it down in the water, deployed its flotation devices and helped the tourists to safety.

One of the women on the helicopter nearly drowned before she could be rescued, said Dr. Spiros Frangos, a surgeon who treated her at Bellevue Medical Center.

The woman, identified by a police official as Karen Butler, was put into a medically induced coma and was initially listed in critical condition, Frangos said. A hospital spokesman said on Thursday that she had been upgraded to serious condition.

All seven people aboard the aircraft had climbed atop its pontoons or were in the water and clinging to its side when the police boats arrived, police said.

A police officer who assisted in the rescue said his boat was able to get to the overturned helicopter within 30 seconds of the first radio call reporting the crash. Three other police boats arrived shortly after, he said.

"One of the officers jumped onto the helicopter and assisted a woman in distress," Sgt. Paul Reynolds said.

There was no immediate word on what caused the crash, although the Federal Aviation Administration had already launched an investigation, FAA spokesman Jim Peters said.

The 28-year-old helicopter was operated by Helicopter Flight Service and had no previous accidents or incidents, Peters said. The company did not return phone messages left at its offices.

All those on the helicopter were taken to nearby hospitals: five to Bellevue Medical Center, two to New York University Downtown Medical Center.

Dr. Antonio Dajer, of the NYU Downtown emergency room, said two women were admitted there and were in stable condition. One was exposed to helicopter fuel while in the water; the second was just dunked in the river after the crash.

"They should do fine," Dajer said. "Amazingly, there were no serious injuries."



Callan's Q

Brooklyn Papers photographer Tom Callan's photo, titled "The Q Train," was a winner in the Brooklyn Public Library's "My Brooklyn" contest. The photo will be on display in the "My Brooklyn" exhibit at the main branch at Grand Army Plaza from June 28 through Aug. 14.

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Get your FREE credit report

By Richard A. Klass, Esq.

Q Last month, I read that I can now obtain my credit report for free. How do I get it for free?

A There are three credit reporting agencies upon which credit grantors rely, which are: Equifax, Experian (formerly "TRW") and TransUnion. Generally, before a credit grantor (such as a bank, mortgage lender, auto finance company or credit card company) extends credit to a consumer, a credit report is obtained from one or all of the above three agencies by the credit grantor. Many times, the decision as to whether to grant credit to a consumer is based solely upon the consumer's credit score and information determined from a credit report. This is especially true now, given that credit grantors tend to have computer software make credit decisions, as opposed to credit managers. These recent developments have made credit reports an essential element of one's financial life.

According to the recently-enacted Fair and Accurate Credit Reporting Act (FACTA), all consumers nationwide will be able to obtain their credit reports from each of those three agencies once every 12 months, beginning on September 1, 2005, at no charge. Previous to the enactment of FACTA, consumers could obtain their credit reports for free only if an adverse action was taken by a credit grantor because of information from a credit report; otherwise, consumers had to purchase their credit reports to review them. Largely in response to mounting identity fraud crimes being committed, Congress passed FACTA to ensure that all consumers have the right to periodically review their credit reports for accuracy. After review, a consumer may request that an inaccurate credit report be amended or repaired.

The three credit reporting agencies are: Equifax (800-685-1111) or www.equifax.com; Experian (888-397-3742) or www.experian.com; and TransUnion (800-916-8800) or www.transunion.com. The free annual credit report may be obtained at www.annualcreditreport.com or by calling 877-322-8228. For further information, visit www.faircreditreporting.com.

Richard A. Klass, Esq., maintains a law firm engaged in general civil practice at 16 Court St. in Brooklyn Heights. He may be reached at (718) COURT-ST or RickKlass@CourtStreetLaw.com for any questions.

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